Gilleland Creek Watershed TMDL Implementation Plan Update

Wednesday, October 19, 2016 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Pflugerville Public Library 1008 W. Pfluger

Meeting Notes

Welcome and Introductions – Lauren Young, TCEQ TMDL Program
 Lauren welcomed participants, and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2) Review of Activities by I-Plan Management Measures / Control Actions – Lauren Young and Committee members

Lauren discussed the reasons for development of the TMDL and implementation plan for Gilleland Creek. She then led a discussion of the status of management measures from the plan, with committee members providing specific highlights of their actions and any issues relating to the management measures and control action, which can be grouped into the following categories from the I-Plan.

- a. OSSFs
- b. Natural Resource Management
- c. Education & Outreach
- d. Ordinance & Planning
- e. Wastewater

3) I-Plan Revisions – Louanne Jones

Lauren introduced Louanne Jones, who will be taking on TCEQ responsibility for working with the Gilleland Creek I-Plan. Louanne explained that implementation plans are meant to be constantly changing and adapting to local circumstances. Five years after approval of an I-Plan, TCEQ is asking the stakeholder advisory group to review the document and make any formal revisions that the committee feels is warranted due to changed conditions and response of the system. Louanne noted that the group was at that five-year crossroads, then introduced Suzanne Schwartz, whom TCEQ has asked to facilitate the stakeholder advisory group's revisions of the Gilleland Creek I-Plan.

4) Moving Forward – Suzanne Schwartz

a. Agree on Need to Review & Revise

The group had a brief discussion of possible options for their plan. The committee can determine not to make revisions. It can continue with its current plan. Or it can make revisions, large or small, to the existing plan. A revised plan does not require formal approval from the TCEQ commissioners, unlike the initial approval, but will be reviewed by TCEQ staff. Participants briefly discussed some benefits and concerns of engaging in a revision process of the I-Plan, and determined to move forward with the effort.

b. Austin Area I-Plan – Chris Herrington

Chris, with City of Austin, presented the idea of combining some efforts of the Gilleland Creek and Improving Austin Streams (IAS) stakeholder groups. He noted this could be done in many different ways, with the intent to create efficiency. He noted that Austin intends to implement the IAS management measures for which it is responsible in all appropriate streams within Austin's jurisdiction. Thus, for Austin, there is benefit to a coordinated effort. He noted one possibility that Gilleland Creek's I-Plan revisions could be developed, then the efforts of the groups merged for efficiency. A possible downside would be less of a primary focus on Gilleland Creek. The group indicated a willingness to consider the issue further, noting the possibility that such merger might even become a management measure in the Gilleland Creek I-Plan revision. No decisions were made, and participants agreed to continue to explore this matter.

c. Who to involve and immediate action plan

Participants expressed interest in involving others in efforts to revise the Gilleland Creek I-Plan. Suzanne will send out a Doodle poll with proposed dates for a meeting to launch the I-Plan revision. Those who participated in the original I-Plan development will be invited. She also will research other possible members. MS4 permittees are possible groups to target.

5) Review of Web Page – Lauren Young

There was no discussion of this item, as the meeting had reached its stated ending time.

6) Comments – Lauren Young

There were no comments.

7) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3 PM.